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American Embassy,
Stockholm, Sweden,
February 15, 1965.

MEMORANDUM OF CONVERSATION

PARTICIPANTS: Leif Leifland, Deputy Chief of Information Service, Foreign
Office
George R. Andrews, Second Secretary of Embassy

DATE: February 11, 1965

SUBJECT: Russian Protest on February 2 TV Program on Raoul WALLENBERG

During the course of a conversation on the February 2 TV program on the disappearance of Raoul Wallenberg, Mr. Leifland confirmed that Ambassador Jarring had been called into the Soviet Foreign Ministry on the TV program. The Russians had not lost any time being delicate about the matter, but had simply asked Jarring in point blank terms to have the program cancelled. I asked Leifland whether the crassness of the Soviet approach had taken the Foreign Ministry aback. He replied in the negative, saying this was the normal way for the Soviets to deal with "their small Swedish neighbor."

Leifland said that the Foreign Ministry had kept this information on a limit distribution basis in order that no word or rumor of the Soviet approach could reach Sveriges Radio and the producers of the program, who might conceivably have cancelled the program if they had heard of the Soviet demarche. Leifland also implied at one point that the Foreign Ministry had declined to provide more assistance to the producers of the program because of Russian sensitivity. However, the Foreign Ministry's attitude taken as a whole, judging from Leifland's remarks, was certainly an encouraging one.

Leifland added that word of the Russian protest was more widely known now within the Foreign Ministry and that there was some fear that there might be a news break on it. He asked me to treat his comments on a very confidential basis.

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